Message Text

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DRAFTED BY NEA/ARN:RNEUMANN/ETUNIS:DWL APPROVED BY NEA:MDRAPER PM/SAS:AAALLITTO DOD/DSAA:LTHIRL

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R 181940Z AUG 78 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 210404

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, US

SUBJECT: DEFECTIVE TOW MISSILES

REF: AMMAN 3222

1. WE BELIEVE THE PROGRAM OUTLINED BELOW TO REPLACE SOME OF JAF'S DEFECTIVE TOW MISSILES WILL PROVE USEFUL IN ALLAYING JORDANIAN CONCERNS AND DEMONSTRATING OUR INTEREST IN THOSE CONCERNS WITHIN PRESENT FISCAL AND LEGAL CONSTRAINTS. IN COMING TO A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE DEFECTIVE TOW MISSILE PROBLEM, WE BELIEVE JORDAN SHOULD ACCEPT A 2.5 PERCENT DUD OR DEFFECTIVE RATE FOR THE TOW MISSILES IN LOTS CCH 114, CCH 114-2, AND HAQ 114-1 (I.E. 16 MISSILES FOR THE TOTAL IN THESE LOTS). OTHER CUSTOMERS, INCLUDING U.S. FORCES, FACE THE SAME POTENTIAL DUD RATE REGARDLESS OF CAUSE.

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2. WE PROPOSE TO SUPPLEMENT JORDAN'S 77 MAP FUNDS IN ORDER TO REPLACE UP TO 20 TOW MISSILES OVER AND ABOVE THE 2.5 PERCENT DUD RATE (I.E. OVER AND NOT INCLUDING 16 MISSILES) FROM THE ABOVE THREE LOTS THAT HAVE BEEN OR MAY BE IN THE FUTURE IDENTIFIED AS DEFECTIVE. THESE FUNDS MUST BE OBLIGATED FOR REPLACEMENT MISSILES NLT SEPT 30, 1978. WHILE THE JAF MAY NOT HAVE IDENTIFIED 20 DEFFECTIVE

MISSILES OVER THE 2.5 RATE IN THEIR INVENTORY TO THAT TIME, UP TO 20 MISSILES COULD BE USED BY JAF TO REPLACE MISSILES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED AS DEFECTIVE ALREADY BUT WHICH MAY LATER BE SO IDENTIFIED.

3. IN PRESENTING THIS SOLUTION TO THIS PARTICULAR PROBLEM ONE CONSTANT CONCERN IS THAT THIS NOT RPT NOT BE VIEWED BY THE JAF AS A PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE ISSUES CONCERNING POSSIBLY DEFFECTIVE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING TOWS. YOU SHOULD EMPHASIZE TO THE JAF THAT THIS IS A UNIQUE SOLUTION THAT IN NO WAY SHOULD BE VIEWED AS APPLICABLE TO PAST, PRESENT OR FUTURE CASES RELATED TO DEFECTIVE EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED UNDER MAP, INCLUDING TOW. IN ADDITION, YOU SHOULD POINT OUT TO JAF THAT TOW MISSILES IN THEIR INVENTORY ARE AGING AND THEY SHOULD BE ISSUED FOR TRAINING PURPOSES ASAP. VANCE

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